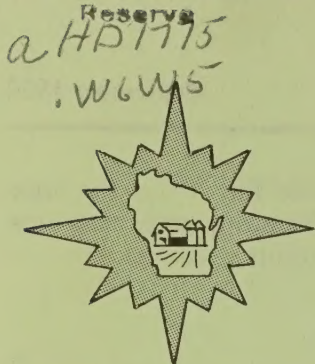


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
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VOL. V, NO. 11

PROCUREMENT SECTION
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September 1973

Cream of the News

Wisconsin's milk production in August was 8 percent below a year ago, the seventh consecutive month of a decline in milk production.

The prices received index for Wisconsin farm products as of mid-August was up 13 percent from a month earlier, the sharpest rise ever for any month.

Red meat production in Wisconsin's commercial slaughtering plants during July was up nearly 5½ percent from a year ago as the supply of pork increased.

Wholesale prices of dairy products increased considerably during August and were well above last year.

Cheese production in the Nation during July was up 2 percent from the previous year but butter output was down 21 percent.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market reached a record high average of \$56.60 a hundredweight for August.

Manufactured dairy products utilized 52 percent of the Nation's 1972 milk production, the same percentage as in 1971.

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for milk showed the largest increase ever for a July to August period and was the greatest month to month increase since August to September 1946.

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of August were 14 percent under a year ago.

Beef cattle prices at St. Paul and Kansas City reached record highs during August.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation on August 31 were 42 percent below a year earlier while cheese stocks were down 5 percent.

Wisconsin farmers had 4 percent more hogs and pigs on farms September 1 than a year ago but the 10 Corn Belt States showed little change.

Harvesting conditions on Wisconsin farms as fall began were much more favorable than last year when several weeks of rain had left fields extremely soft.

MILK PRODUCTION CONTINUES LOWER

Production of milk on Wisconsin farms in August was 8 percent below a year ago, the seventh consecutive month that milk production was under last year. The August milk output of 1,463 million pounds was the lowest for that month since 1968. Milk production in Wisconsin declined 10 percent from July to August compared with an 8 percent drop for that period a year earlier. Output per cow in August averaged 810 pounds, down 60 pounds from August 1972. Wisconsin's milk production in the first eight months of 1973 was down more than 3 percent from the comparable period in 1972.

Pasture feed conditions in Wisconsin as of September 1 were considerably under a year ago. The reported condition was 71 percent of normal on September 1 compared with 73 percent a month earlier and 94 percent last year. Good rains in August improved pastures in the north and west but more moisture was needed in the south and east to provide better fall grazing.

Milk Production

Selected States	August 1972	August 1973	Jan.-Aug. 1973	Change from last year	
				August	Jan.-August
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin	1,594	1,463	13,323	- 8	- 3
Minnesota	698	698	6,823	n. c.	- 2
Iowa	373	365	3,083	- 2	- 2
New York	803	753	6,706	- 6	- 6
Pennsylvania	573	549	4,571	- 4	- 5
California	925	919	7,096	- 1	+ 1
Other states	5,016	4,851	39,379	- 3	- 2
United States	9,982	9,598	80,981	- 4	- 2

LESS BUTTER AND AMERICAN CHEESE MADE IN AUGUST

Weekly estimates of butter and American cheese production in Wisconsin and the Nation for August indicate a decline from a year ago. August butter output in the Nation is expected to be about 22 percent under last year. Production of butter in July showed a similar decline and for the first seven months was down 15 percent. Wisconsin's butter churn-

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ings in August will be sharply lower than the 20 percent drop shown in July. The State's butter production from January through July was down 7 percent from a year earlier.

American cheese production in the Nation for August could be 4 percent under last year. July's output was down 2 percent but production in the first seven months showed a 1 percent gain. Wisconsin's output of American cheese in August may decline about the same as the 4 percent drop in July. From January through July, the State's production of American cheese was up 1 percent from that period last year.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production	Change	Change	Production	Change	Change
	1973	from last year	from last year	1973	from last year	from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
July	69,138	- 21	- 20	154,708	- 2	- 4
Jan.-July . .	621,976	- 15	- 7	1,036,476	+ 1	+ 1
Weeks ending						
Aug. 9 . . .	13,100	- 24	- 35	32,350	- 4	- 2
Aug. 16 . .	13,350	- 25	- 34	31,600	- 5	- 4
Aug. 23 . .	12,850	- 24	- 40	30,800	- 3	- 1
Aug. 30 . .	13,200	- 13	- 21	28,850	- 4	- 5
Total	52,500	- 22	xxx	123,600	- 4	xxx

AUGUST MILK PRICE IN SHARP RISE

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all milk sold during August are expected to average \$6.50 a hundredweight. This would be 37 cents more than in July and the largest increase ever for that period. The July to August gain in milk prices is also the largest for any month to month period since the 53 cents increase from August to September 1946. A year ago in August the price for all milk was \$5.45 a hundredweight.

Milk prices in July averaged \$6.13 a hundredweight, up 4 cents from June and 78 cents above July 1972. Milkfat content averaged 3.60 percent in July compared with 3.59 percent a year earlier.

Grade A milk producers received an average of \$6.25 a hundredweight for July, a gain of 3 cents from June and 78 cents greater than last year. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$5.97 in July, an increase of 4 cents from the previous

month and also 78 cents higher than July 1972. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 28 cents for July compared with 31 cents a year ago.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	June 1973		July price per cwt.			August 1973 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1972	1973	73/72 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.64	6.09	5.35	6.13	+ 15	6.50
Minnesota	3.51	5.73	4.98	5.79	+ 16	6.08
Iowa	3.51	5.84	5.14	5.88	+ 14	5.95
New York	3.54	6.30	6.10	6.90	+ 13	7.45
California	3.48	5.70	5.36	5.80	+ 8	6.30
United States	3.56	6.37	5.80	6.52	+ 12	6.88
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk	3.63	6.22	5.47	6.25	+ 14	xxx
Manufacturing milk	3.66	5.93	5.19	5.97	+ 15	xxx
Creameries	3.66	5.88	5.17	5.95	+ 15	xxx
Cheese factories . . .	3.66	5.94	5.19	5.97	+ 15	xxx
Varied prod. plants	3.65	5.88	5.18	5.93	+ 14	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	July 1972	June 1973	July 1973 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses	5.20	5.86	5.96	+ 15
Market milk	5.33	6.00	6.11	+ 15
Manufacturing milk	5.03	5.67	5.77	+ 15
Creameries	4.95	5.62	5.75	+ 16
American cheese plants	5.02	5.67	5.76	+ 15
Varied products plants	4.99	5.64	5.75	+ 15
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone	5.55	6.25	6.32	+ 14

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

CHEESE PRODUCTION REMAINS 2 PERCENT HIGHER

Cheese production in the Nation during July was 2 percent more than a year ago, the same increase as shown in the first six months of 1973. Although output of American cheese in July was down 2 percent, other varieties had increases of 13 percent for Italian, 4 percent for Brick and Muenster, 1 percent for Swiss, and 8 percent for all other cheese.

Wisconsin's production of American cheese for July was 4 percent below the previous year. Output in Missouri was down 25 percent but Minnesota made 37 percent more American cheese in July than a year ago. Production of American cheese in all other states was 6 percent under July 1972.

Butter production in the Nation during July was 21 percent less than last year. Wisconsin creameries churned 20 percent less butter in July than a year earlier. Output in Minnesota was down 14 percent and Iowa had a decline of 34 percent. All other states manufactured 23 percent less butter during July than in the previous year.

Cottage cheese production in the Nation for July was 1 percent below July 1972 but output of ice cream increased 5 percent.

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Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	July 1972	July 1973	Jan.- July 1973	Change from last year	
				July	Jan.-July
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	17,041	13,600	122,930	- 20	- 7
Minnesota	21,847	18,700	145,675	- 14	- 20
Iowa	7,629	5,020	44,970	- 34	- 20
Other states	41,186	31,818	308,401	- 23	- 14
United States	87,703	69,138	621,976	- 21	- 15
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	69,031	66,500	462,550	- 4	+ 1
Minnesota	15,455	21,140	139,530	+ 37	+ 20
Missouri	10,183	7,600	46,900	- 25	- 19
Other states	62,932	59,468	387,496	- 6	- 3
United States	157,601	154,708	1,036,476	- 2	+ 1
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	15,132	15,249	108,199	+ 1	+ 5
Brick and Muenster . .	5,425	5,666	40,460	+ 4	+ 2
Italian	41,672	46,949	323,558	+ 13	+ 5
All other	14,349	15,516	114,443	+ 8	+ 8
Total	76,578	83,380	586,660	+ 9	+ 5
ALL CHEESE					
United States	234,179	238,088	1,623,136	+ 2	+ 2
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	65,098	64,534	479,593	- 1	+ 2
Creamed 2/	83,987	82,924	612,904	- 1	n. c.
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,757	1,700	10,130	- 3	- 11
Illinois	3,970	4,000	27,250	+ 1	+ 12
Iowa	714	850	4,640	+ 19	+ 1
Michigan	3,361	3,380	21,720	+ 1	+ 9
Minnesota	2,672	3,095	18,315	+ 16	+ 6
Other states	62,360	65,731	386,487	+ 5	+ 2
United States	74,834	78,756	468,542	+ 5	+ 3

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

WHOLESALE DAIRY PRICES INCREASE DURING AUGUST

Wholesale prices of dairy products increased considerably during August. Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 74.69 cents a pound for August, up more than 6 cents from July and about 14½ cents higher than last year. This was the sixth consecutive month that wholesale cheddar cheese prices increased.

Prices of wholesale Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged 82.20 cents a pound in August, a gain of over ½ cent from the previous month and more than 9 cents above August 1972. This was the first month to month increase in Swiss cheese prices since March of this year.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	August 1972	July 1973	August 1973 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound	70.36¢	63.93¢	78.02¢ 3/
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/ ...	60.11¢	68.36¢	74.69¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	73.00¢	81.50¢	82.20¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$7.70-9.10	\$8.80-10.25	\$ - - - -
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	31.67¢	45.51¢	47.96¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points. 3/93-score average.

Wholesale prices of 93-score butter at New York averaged about 78 cents a pound during August. This was nearly

14 cents higher than in July and was more than 7½ cents above August 1972.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX IN STEEP CLIMB

The index of prices received for all farm products sold in Wisconsin during the month ending at mid-August was a record 530 percent of the 1910-14 base, up 63 points (13 percent) from a month earlier. This was the sharpest rise ever in the prices received index for any month. The index was 155 points (41 percent) above mid-August 1972. All crop and livestock commodities showed increases from July to August.

Steers and heifers averaged \$50.00 a hundredweight as of August 15, up \$5.00 from a month earlier and \$16.50 above last year. Slaughter cows, at \$38.00 a hundredweight, were \$3.50 higher than in July and \$11.80 greater than a year ago.

Hog prices jumped to an average of \$54.30 a hundredweight as of mid-August, an increase of \$15.10 from the previous month and \$26.30 above August 1972. Two years ago hog prices averaged only \$19.00 a hundredweight in mid-August.

Calves averaged \$74.00 a hundredweight as of August 15, a gain of \$7.50 from July and \$24.50 higher than a year earlier.

Sheep, at \$10.50 a hundredweight in mid-August, were up \$1.00 from July and \$4.00 above last year. Lambs returned \$43.00 a hundredweight in August, up \$11.00 from the previous month and \$14.30 more than August 1972. The

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	August 15, 1971	August 15, 1972	July 15, 1973	August 15, 1973
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	410.00	470.00	580.00	590.00
Steers and heifers ..	Cwt.	28.00	33.50	45.00	50.00
Cows	Cwt.	21.20	26.20	34.50	38.00
Calves	Cwt.	41.50	49.50	66.50	74.00
Hogs	Cwt.	19.00	28.00	39.20	54.30
Sheep	Cwt.	5.70	6.50	9.50	10.50
Lambs	Cwt.	26.10	28.70	32.00	43.00
Wool	Lb.	.22	.28	.50	.60
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.085	.075	.140	.180
Turkeys	Lb.	.220	.220	.340	.370
Eggs	Doz.	.270	.230	.510	.650
Corn	Bu.	1.30	1.15	1.89	2.37
Oats	Bu.	.65	.71	.87	1.05
Soybeans	Bu.	3.02	3.35	6.50	9.00
Alfalfa hay, baled ..	Ton	20.00	26.00	28.00	28.50

1/Excludes broilers.

mid-August wool price of 60 cents a pound was 10 cents more than in July and 32 cents greater than a year earlier.

Egg prices averaged 65 cents a dozen as of August 15, the highest since December 1920. Eggs increased 14 cents from July to August and were 42 cents above last year. Turkeys, at 37 cents a pound liveweight for August, were 3 cents more than July and 15 cents higher than August 1972.

Corn prices averaged \$2.37 a bushel in mid-August, the most since January 1948. Corn was up 48 cents from July and \$1.22 above a year ago. Oats, at \$1.05 a bushel in August, was the highest since June 1948. Oats increased 18 cents from July to August and was 34 cents more than last year. Soybeans averaged \$9.00 a bushel in mid-August, up \$2.50 from July and \$5.65 greater than August 1972.

NATION'S 1972 MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS

Manufactured dairy products utilized 52 percent of the Nation's 1972 milk production, the same percentage as in 1971. Manufacturing use in whole milk equivalent based on milkfat content was 62.3 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 1971.

A total of 22.8 billion pounds of whole milk was used for butter production in 1972, down 5 percent from the previous year. Butter accounted for 37 percent of the total whole milk used for all dairy products.

Milk used for cheese production also amounted to 22.8

billion pounds, up 9 percent from 1971. This was the first year on record that use of milk for cheese equaled that utilized for butter. Production was at a record high in 1972 for all types of cheese except Brick and Limburger.

Frozen dairy products used 11 billion pounds of whole milk in 1972, about the same as in 1971. Based on net milk used, frozen dairy products accounted for 18 percent of the total milk used for all products.

Wisconsin continued as the leading state in use of milk for manufactured dairy products with over 22 percent of the total. Other ranking states were Minnesota, California, New York, and Iowa. These four states and Wisconsin accounted for 55 percent of the Nation's total net milk equivalent.

Manufactured Dairy Products, United States, 1972

State	Butter	Cheese				Cottage Cheese		Ice cream	Nonfat dry milk (spray and roller for human use)	Evaporated whole milk	Dried whole milk	Ice milk 3/
		American 1/	Brick and Muenster	Italian	Swiss	Curd 2/	Creamed					
		1,000 pounds						1,000 gallons	1,000 pounds			1,000 gallons
Maine	51	—	—	—	—	15,999	21,181	4,833	—	—	—	1,747
New Hampshire . . .	—	—	—	—	—	*	*	1,532	*	—	—	661
Vermont	7,393	14,922	—	17,317	—	18,186	17,304	164	13,409	—	*	361
Massachusetts	—	—	—	5,623	—	756	1,058	41,025	—	—	—	8,802
Rhode Island	—	—	—	933	—	—	—	1,432	—	—	—	551
Connecticut	—	—	—	3,654	—	5,549	1,839	15,685	*	—	—	2,157
New York	44,053	60,414	—	82,748	*	119,210	133,508	66,142	68,771	*	8,545	10,290
New Jersey	—	—	—	10,948	—	*	*	15,567	—	—	—	2,524
Pennsylvania	23,936	2,708	*	10,790	—	42,311	47,396	73,897	29,759	90,421	*	17,738
Ohio	19,426	16,630	317	—	13,482	52,033	73,776	45,600	31,257	183,744	—	20,713
Indiana	20,204	19,995	—	*	—	20,709	33,894	26,206	13,270	—	*	7,791
Illinois	18,335	13,868	4,316	17,628	52,425	45,023	61,992	41,893	—	*	*	14,315
Michigan	30,897	17,542	—	—	—	40,452	65,656	33,819	25,405	*	4,352	10,400
Wisconsin	198,699	731,704	50,176	179,435	37,747	43,644	60,241	18,893	139,901	*	5,378	4,893
Minnesota	262,201	191,232	—	19,870	*	16,570	23,175	29,937	366,015	—	16,802	6,067
Iowa	85,261	93,298	—	*	*	10,497	16,800	7,718	111,410	—	—	3,964 4/
Missouri	32,837	91,918	—	—	—	16,904	26,873	18,065	*	*	—	11,952
North Dakota	17,328	38,965	—	—	—	*	*	2,411	*	—	—	1,151
South Dakota	15,588	40,525	—	*	*	*	*	169	37,780	—	—	752
Nebraska	26,952	30,969	—	35,579	—	7,468	11,636	8,449	18,667	—	*	4,714
Kansas	13,273	39,539	*	*	—	17,583	26,043	7,585	*	—	—	4,944
Delaware	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	33	—	—	—	114
Maryland and D. C. . .	*	—	—	*	—	15,096	16,423	20,578	*	—	—	7,644
Virginia	*	*	—	—	—	6,894	6,027	9,286	*	*	—	3,650
West Virginia	*	—	—	—	—	1,919	2,941	2,164	—	*	—	2,106
North Carolina	—	*	—	—	—	8,503	9,280	22,016	—	*	—	8,974 5/
South Carolina	*	—	—	—	—	*	*	8,714	—	—	—	7,496
Georgia	*	—	—	—	—	2,535	3,731	6,576	*	—	—	6,442
Florida	—	—	—	—	—	20,822	29,182	23,587	—	—	—	14,025
Kentucky	18,350	55,313	—	*	—	13,033	13,308	5,216	*	*	—	4,118
Tennessee	16,119	30,806	—	*	*	8,466	12,712	15,999	10,956	87,435	—	9,165
Alabama	*	3,802	—	—	—	1,841	1,652	12,104	—	—	—	8,877
Mississippi	—	—	—	—	—	—	*	4,476	—	—	—	3,129 5/
Arkansas	*	5,987	—	*	*	934	1,390	3,603	—	*	—	2,986
Louisiana	2,669	55	—	7,838	—	8,403	12,170	10,469	*	—	—	4,592
Oklahoma	21,591	*	—	—	—	8,853	12,306	6,817	*	—	—	5,197
Texas	3,321	*	—	—	—	19,683	22,493	31,502	*	*	—	7,366
Montana	3,185	3,885	—	*	—	3,176	5,091	2,027	—	—	—	1,058 6/
Idaho	25,265	43,237	—	*	*	2,917	4,586	3,156	39,365	*	*	1,426
Wyoming	737	—	—	—	—	*	*	7/	—	—	—	7/
Colorado	6,149	—	—	*	—	11,627	15,932	7,024	—	*	—	4,259
New Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	4,661	6,476	1,792	—	—	—	853
Arizona	*	—	—	—	—	9,538	12,334	5,976	*	—	—	2,179
Utah	8,715	32,564	—	—	15,206	6,293	10,126	5,610	4,676	*	*	3,140
Nevada	—	—	—	—	—	*	—	1,052	*	—	*	725
Washington	28,168	6,074	—	10,682	—	18,967	26,560	13,750	37,201	*	—	7,364
Oregon	13,875	19,507	—	—	—	11,637	17,968	7,653	*	—	*	4,753 8/
California	112,379	3,967	—	19,085	—	113,304	130,155	74,649	149,477	138,746	730	28,793 9/
Alaska and Hawaii . .	—	—	—	—	—	2,394	3,004	3,388 10/	—	—	—	2,108 10/
United States	1,101,910	1,644,287	67,467	512,252	177,773	784,204	1,013,644	770,239	1,223,456	1,183,298	75,246	289,026

*Production not shown in states where less than 3 plants reported; or to avoid disclosing individual operations. U. S. totals include production not shown separately. 1/Includes Cheddar, Colby, washed or stirred curd, high and low moisture jack, Monterey and granular. 2/Used for processing into full or partially creamed cottage cheese or for sale to consumers in dry form. Cottage cheese curd and full or partially creamed cottage cheese should not be added together to obtain consumption. Although a small quantity of cottage cheese curd is sold direct for consumption in dry form, most of it is creamed within the plant or shipped to another plant where a creaming mixture is added prior to sale. 3/Includes freezer-made milkshake. 4/Includes substandard frozen desserts. 5/Includes milkshake base. 6/Includes lowfat ice cream. 7/Included with Alaska and Hawaii. 8/Includes substandard ice cream. 9/Includes freezer-made "milk-drink." 10/Includes Wyoming production.

BUTTER STOCKS SHARPLY LOWER

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of August were down 42 percent from a year earlier. This was the fifth consecutive month that butter stocks were below last year. Of the 141 million pounds of butter in cold storage on August 31, the Government owned 72 million pounds which was about 102 million pounds less than a year ago.

Total cheese stocks in cold storage on August 31 were 5 percent under the previous year. Although stocks of Swiss cheese were up 83 percent, supplies of American and all other cheese in cold storage were down 7 percent. The Government held 330,000 pounds of American cheese in cold storage at the end of August, an increase of 122,000 pounds from a year earlier but only about a tenth of the amount owned two years ago.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	August 31, 1971	August 31, 1972	August 31, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	246,760	198,406	114,191	- 42
Cheese, American	303,902	341,935	316,860	- 7
Cheese, Swiss	10,151	8,500	15,530	+ 83
Cheese, all other	64,756	59,269	54,940	- 7
Cheese, total	378,809	409,704	387,330	- 5
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	12,912	9,877	8,917	- 10
Cheese, American	177,489	208,096	197,298	- 5
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	215,254	173,800	72,018	- 59
Cheese, American	3,120	208	330	+ 59

*Included in above totals.

**Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products
United States**

Commodity	July 31, 1971	July 31, 1972	July 31, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	8,282	7,144	9,563	+ 34
Dried skim milk	154,769	108,964	93,061	- 15
Dried buttermilk	5,319	5,192	5,646	+ 9
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/...	162,367	145,566	133,640	- 8

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION ABOVE JULY LAST YEAR

Commercial slaughtering plants in Wisconsin produced 92 million pounds of red meat in July, an increase of nearly 5½ percent from a year ago. Although output of beef was down 1 percent, the supply of pork increased 16 percent from July last year.

Cattle slaughter for July totaled 90,000, the same as a year earlier. However, the average liveweight of cattle in July was 14 pounds lighter than July 1972.

The July hog kill of 259,000 was 37,000 more than the previous year. Hogs averaged 239 pounds liveweight for July, down 2 pounds from last year.

July's calf slaughter amounted to 14,300, up 1,100 from a year ago. This was the first time since February 1972 that the number of calves slaughtered was higher than a year earlier. The 300 sheep and lambs butchered in July were 100 more than last year.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	July		Change from last year	July	
	1972	1973		1972	1973
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	90.0	90.0	n. c.	99.1	97.8
United States 1/ . .	2,758.4	2,690.9	— 2	2,826.0	2,811.8
Calves					
Wisconsin	13.2	14.3	+ 8	2.6	2.8
United States 1/ . .	214.1	154.3	— 28	58.6	42.2
Hogs					
Wisconsin	222.0	259.0	+ 17	53.5	61.9
United States 1/ . .	5,686.5	5,329.5	— 6	1,361.9	1,303.2
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin2	.3	+ 50	.019	.029
United States 1/ . .	766.5	834.8	+ 9	76.9	87.8

1/Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

MEAT STOCKS REMAIN LOWER

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of August were 14 percent under a year ago. Pork stocks were down 12 percent from August 31 last year and beef stocks showed a decline of 7 percent. This was the first time in ten months that stocks of beef in cold storage were below a year earlier while pork stocks have been lower since November 30, 1971.

**Cold Storage Stocks of Meat
United States**

Commodity	Aug. 31, 1971	Aug. 31, 1972	July 31, 1973	Aug. 31, 1973	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen	324,655	272,024	289,902	254,508	- 6
In cure and cured	8,568	11,613	8,913	8,597	- 26
Total	333,223	283,637	298,815	263,105	- 7
Pork:					
Frozen	309,439	186,535	186,290	162,161	- 13
In cooler	20,563	16,971	16,130	16,676	- 2
Total	330,002	203,506	202,420	178,837	- 12
Other meat and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	7,557	10,207	9,868	8,729	- 14
Lamb and mutton, frozen ..	19,391	21,220	14,034	13,269	- 37
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	63,992	63,616	53,373	37,084	- 42
Other meats	17,432	16,579	11,868	11,884	- 28
Total, all meats	771,597	598,765	590,378	512,908	- 14

SEPTEMBER CROP REPORT

Harvesting conditions on Wisconsin farms as fall began were much more favorable than a year ago when fields were extremely soft from several weeks of summer rains. Silo filling was off to a good start with 30 percent of the crop in by September 24th. This pace was about equal to a normal progress but well ahead of last year's 13 percent. A frost in northern and central areas on September 18th and 20th

and should yield good except where rainfall was short for much of the summer. Harvesting of tobacco made fine progress and a nice crop is in the curing sheds. The potato harvest was moving along without the muddy fields that hindered the 1972 digging. Harvesting of sweet corn and other vegetable crops was likewise going smoothly with yields varying depending on the moisture received during the growing months. The 1973 apple crop was being picked but will be considerably under last year. Harvesting of cranberries was underway with prospects of a good crop. The wild berry crop was excellent this year and gardens also produced abundantly.

Fall plowing was off to an early start where moisture was adequate. Seeding of an increased winter wheat acreage was going good. Pastures were providing fine fall grazing in the western half of the State but needed additional moisture in the eastern half. Soil moisture as of late September ranged from short to adequate.

ended the hopes of corn for grain on many farms. Silo filling should be very active now if the weather remains cooperative. Most of the corn for grain in the west and south is safe from frost but the east could use more time because of later plantings. The late plantings and dry summer this year will probably reduce overall yield of corn for grain. The estimated production on September 1 was 176 million bushels, down 13 percent from 1972 due to fewer acres to harvest for grain and a lower yield.

Much of the hay and oats was harvested in Wisconsin by late September in sharp contrast to a year ago. Hay production should be sufficient on most farms to meet winter feeding needs. The oats crop however had its poorest yield since 1954 and production was the lowest since 1936. Straw was again quite short and bedding will be at a premium. Late plantings and hot, dry weather when heads were filling hurt the oats crop this year. Some of the oats planted in March and early April had a respectable yield of grain and straw.

The soybean crop was maturing well by late September

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for September 1, 1973

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)	1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)		1971	1972	1973 (preliminary)
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain	2,304	2,143	2,050	98.0	95.0	86.0	Bu.	225,792	203,585	176,300
Oats	1,535	1,350	1,400	62.0	55.0	44.0	Bu.	95,170	74,250	61,600
Barley	28	22	24	55.0	45.0	45.0	Bu.	1,540	990	1,080
Rye	12	10	9	24.0	20.0	22.0	Bu.	288	200	198
Wheat (all)	35	29	30	37.5	31.1	35.0	Bu.	1,314	901	1,050
Winter	22	20	18	42.0	32.0	39.0	Bu.	924	640	702
Spring	13	9	12	30.0	29.0	29.0	Bu.	390	261	348
Soybeans for beans	128	145	236	23.5	28.0	23.0	Bu.	3,008	4,060	5,428
Potatoes (Fall)	51.5	45.5	49.0	256	253	—	Cwt.	13,183	11,530	—
Tobacco (all)	10.6	10.8	9.5	2,125	1,727	1,850	Lb.	22,525	18,650	17,575
Type 54	5.3	5.0	4.5	2,270	1,700	1,850	Lb.	12,031	8,500	8,325
Type 55	5.3	5.8	5.0	1,980	1,750	1,850	Lb.	10,494	10,150	9,250
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all)	3,987	3,920	4,070	2.78	2.60	2.60	Ton	11,083	10,203	10,563
Alfalfa and mixture	3,017	2,950	3,090	2.95	2.85	2.80	Ton	8,900	8,408	8,652
All other	970	970	980	2.25	1.85	1.95	Ton	2,183	1,795	1,911
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots 1/	1.6	1.7	1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cabbage 1/	3.2	3.8	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lettuce 1/	1.6	.9	.8	220	210	—	Cwt.	352	189	—
Mint for oil	10.3	4.5	6.4	43	30	38	Cwt.	443	135	243
Onions, Commercial 1/	1.6	1.5	1.4	235	250	235	Cwt.	376	375	329
For processing:										
Green lima beans	5.3	6.4	7.3	1.25	.82	1.00	Ton 2/	6.7	5.3	7.3
Peas	125.1	122.2	130.1	1.17	1.34	1.10	Ton 2/	146.4	163.8	143.1
Snap beans	50.1	45.5	60.0	2.59	2.67	2.40	Ton	129.8	121.5	144.0
Sweet corn	117.9	113.5	124.0	4.57	4.54	3.80	Ton	538.8	515.3	471.2
Beets for canning	5.8	4.5	6.2	11.66	14.00	10.50	Ton	67.7	63.0	65.1
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, Commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	65,000	65,000	53,000
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	8.4	4.6	3.0
Cranberries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	742	805	837
Strawberries	1.5	1.4	1.4	29	23	27	Cwt.	44	32	38

1/Summer acreage. 2/Shelled.

WISCONSIN HOG INVENTORY HIGHER

Wisconsin farmers had 1,510,000 hogs and pigs on farms September 1, an increase of 4 percent from a year ago. Market hogs at 1,267,000 were up 4 percent from last year and breeding stock showed a gain of 5 percent.

A total of 101,000 sows farrowed during June through August, 5 percent above a year earlier. These sows had an

average litter rate of 7.25 pigs compared with 7.40 in the June-August quarter of 1972. The pig crop of 732,000 for the past quarter was 3 percent more than a year ago.

Wisconsin hog producers plan to farrow 102,000 sows in the September through November quarter, an increase of 2 percent from that period last year. Farrowings from December 1973 through February 1974 are expected to be up 6 percent from a year earlier.

There were nearly 46 million hogs and pigs on farms September 1 in the 10 Corn Belt States, about the same as last year. Market hogs showed little change from the previous year but breeding stock increased 1 percent. The June-August 1973 pig crop in the Corn Belt States was down 4 per-

cent from last year as there were fewer sows farrowing and a lower litter rate. Farrowings in these states for both the September through November and December through February quarters are expected to show little change from those quarters a year earlier.

Sows Farrowing, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop
June through August, 1972 and 73, 10 States

State	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pig crop 1/		
	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	1972	1973	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	Head		1,000 head		Percent
Ohio.....	120	112	- 7	7.70	7.20	924	806	- 13
Indiana.....	235	242	+ 3	7.56	7.25	1,777	1,755	- 1
Illinois.....	415	400	- 4	6.70	6.70	2,781	2,680	- 4
Wisconsin.....	96	101	+ 5	7.40	7.25	710	732	+ 3
Minnesota.....	190	210	+ 11	7.35	7.25	1,397	1,523	+ 9
Iowa.....	620	610	- 2	7.35	7.10	4,557	4,331	- 5
Missouri.....	245	228	- 7	7.19	7.19	1,762	1,639	- 7
South Dakota.....	75	80	+ 7	7.20	6.95	540	556	+ 3
Nebraska.....	157	142	- 10	7.20	7.05	1,130	1,001	- 11
Kansas.....	90	85	- 6	7.75	7.40	698	629	- 10
Total 10 States.....	2,243	2,210	- 1	7.26	7.08	16,276	15,652	- 4

1/Number of pigs born June through August that were on hand September 1 or had been sold.

Sows to Farrow, September through February, 10 States

State	September through November			December through February 1/		
	1972	1973 2/	Change from last year	1973	1974 2/	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Ohio.....	120	120	n. c.	100	93	- 7
Indiana.....	215	217	+ 1	235	220	- 6
Illinois.....	390	390	n. c.	340	330	- 3
Wisconsin.....	100	102	+ 2	77	82	+ 6
Minnesota.....	185	210	+ 14	175	203	+ 16
Iowa.....	670	650	- 3	485	510	+ 5
Missouri.....	265	260	- 2	210	208	- 1
South Dakota.....	96	108	+ 13	75	76	+ 1
Nebraska.....	190	178	- 6	150	135	- 10
Kansas.....	118	110	- 7	103	100	- 3
Total 10 States.....	2,349	2,345	n. c.	1,950	1,957	n. c.

1/December preceding year. 2/Number indicated by breeding intentions reports.

All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Breeding and Market
September 1, 1972 and 1973, 10 States

State	For breeding			Market			Total hogs and pigs		
	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	Change from last year	1972	1973	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Ohio.....	320	320	n. c.	2,140	2,000	- 7	2,460	2,320	- 6
Indiana.....	714	693	- 3	4,386	4,407	n. c.	5,100	5,100	n. c.
Illinois.....	993	1,019	+ 3	6,257	6,011	- 4	7,250	7,030	- 3
Wisconsin.....	232	243	+ 5	1,218	1,267	+ 4	1,450	1,510	+ 4
Minnesota.....	548	651	+ 19	2,988	3,417	+ 14	3,536	4,068	+ 15
Iowa.....	2,030	2,007	- 1	12,470	12,643	+ 1	14,500	14,650	+ 1
Missouri.....	610	620	+ 2	3,740	3,580	- 4	4,350	4,200	- 3
South Dakota.....	261	289	+ 11	1,669	1,776	+ 6	1,930	2,065	+ 7
Nebraska.....	515	448	- 13	2,606	2,642	+ 1	3,121	3,090	- 1
Kansas.....	273	265	- 3	1,677	1,565	- 7	1,950	1,830	- 6
Total 10 States.....	6,496	6,555	+ 1	39,151	39,308	n. c.	45,647	45,863	n. c.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES REACH ANOTHER HIGH

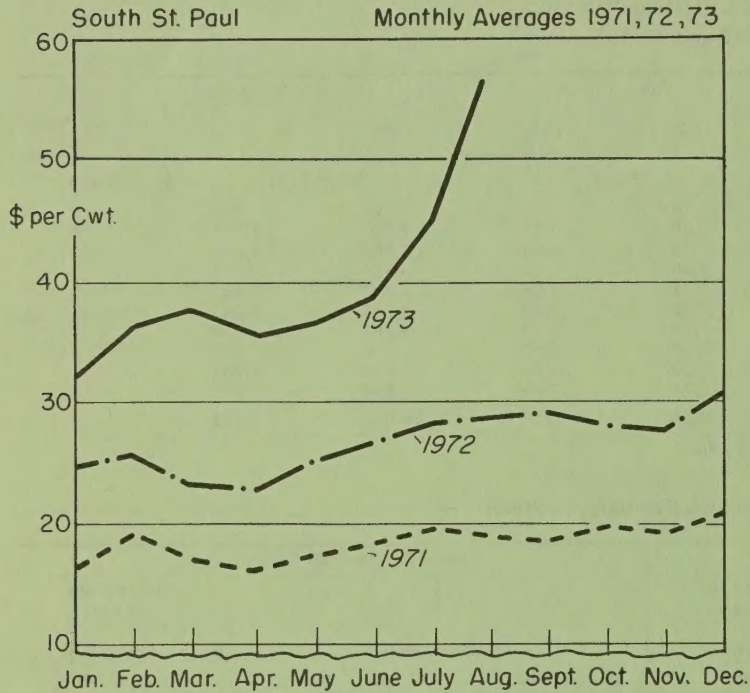
Prices of good grade fed steers at St. Paul and feeder steers at Kansas City reached another high during August as did utility cow prices at St. Paul. Feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$57.56 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market in August, up \$6.22 from a month

earlier and \$17.64 above a year ago. Good grade steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds at the St. Paul market averaged \$49.85 a hundredweight for August, an increase of \$4.61 from July and \$16.67 more than last year. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$39.14 a hundredweight during August, a gain of \$2.89 from August and \$11.34 higher than August 1972.

PRICES OF BARROWS AND GILTS AVERAGE SHARPLY HIGHER FOR AUGUST

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market in August averaged a record high of \$56.60 a hundredweight.

BARROW and GILT PRICES



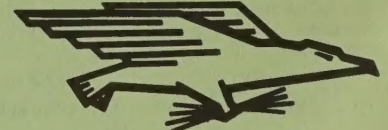
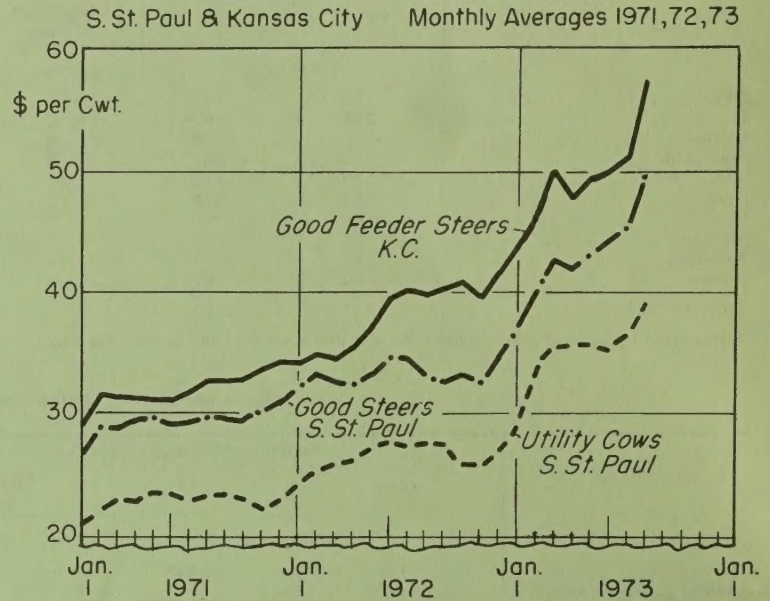
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This was an increase of \$11.31 from July and was nearly double the price of August 1972. Two years ago barrows and gilts at St. Paul averaged just \$19.04 a hundredweight in August. After reaching a peak in the second week of August this year, prices of barrows and gilts began to decline. By the first of September the average price of barrows and gilts at St. Paul was more than \$6.00 under the August high.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES



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